

January 3, 2005  
Case No.: 7780/17  
Serial No.: 09/932,842  
Filed: August 17, 2001  
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**— REMARKS —**

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 were rejected under section 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,452,942 to Lemieux, while claims 6-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16 and 18-19 were rejected under section 103(a) over Lemieux '942 in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0142721 to Souissi et al. Claim 3 was rejected under section 103(a) over Lemieux '942 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,314 to Tuli. Claims 12 and 17 were rejected under section 103(a) over Lemieux '942 in view of the 2002 Souissi et al. publication, and further in view of Tuli '314. Claim 9 was rejected under section 103(a) over Lemieux '942 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,460 to Nojima. Claims 15 and 20 were rejected under section 103(a) over Lemieux '942 in view of the 2002 Souissi et al. publication, and further in view of Nojima '460.

Even assuming that each of these references qualifies as prior art, and that the various combinations proposed by the Examiner are proper, each of independent claims 1, 10 and 16 recites at least one public telephone. The devices D1-D3 of Lemieux '942 are clearly private devices within a subscriber's facility 228.

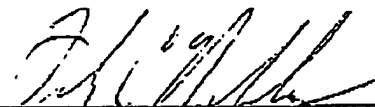
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This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested, and the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney to discuss any remaining matters

Respectfully submitted,

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